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OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR AMERICAN SAMOA GOVERNMENT

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February 16, 2021

GENERAL MEMORANDUM NO. 047-21

To:

Secretary of Samoan Affairs, CEOs, Presidents and Executive Directors of

Authorities, Directors, Agency and Office Heads

From:

Governor of American Samoa

Subject:

Repatriation of Employees

When the borders closed due to COVID-19, some ASG employees were stranded off-island. Pursuant to GM 048-20, those employees continued to receive their paychecks. Currently, the Territory has a repatriation program to bring residents home.

All employees who are still being paid while off-island are directed to apply for repatriation and to contact their directors for further instruction. Any employees who are unable to return, should contact their directors regarding the challenges that are preventing their return. Directors should handle those situations on a case-by-case basis. Consideration should be given to the amount of an employee's duties that could be conducted remotely.

Directors or their designees should reach out to their off-island employees to facilitate their return to the Territory. Directors are encouraged, to the extent that it is practical, to keep their employees engaged in work remotely until they return.

Employees will continue to be paid so long as they are diligently attempting to return to the Territory or so long as they are working remotely full time as authorized by their director. If an employee does not take action to return to the Territory as soon as practical, then actions may be taken to separate them from service pursuant to A.S.C.A. §§ 7.0801 & 7.0804. This memorandum supersedes GM 048-20.

Sincerely,

LEMANU P. S. MAUGA

Governor

cc:

Honorable Talauega E. V. Ale, Lt. Governor

Tuimavave T. Laupola, Chief of Staff